

Menominee Nation News

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Date set for Special Election of MTE Board

By Yvonne M. Kaquatosh
Menominee Nation News

The Menominee Tribal Legislature (MTL) has set November 10th and 11th, 1999 as the official dates for a Special Election of the new Menominee Tribal Enterprise (MTE) Board of Directors.

The decision, which was made at a regular meeting of the Legislature last Thursday, will coincide with the Legislative primary election and, as

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O'Kimosh receives full scholarship

By Mike Wilber
Menominee Nation News

Note: I was invited by my sister Deb Boelter to a brief ceremony in the Shawano-Gresham School District board room to honor her daughter, Darcie O'Kimosh, as the recipient of the Krueger Family Scholarship for American Indian students. I was there as Darcie's uncle, but the significance of the scholarship warranted this story. So please forgive me if it seems a little biased.

Please see **O'Kimosh** page 8

Proposed casino backed by City Council

Associated Press

KENOSHA, Wis. (AP) — A gambling casino that could provide the municipal treasury with millions of dollars has the endorsement of the city council a year after it won approval in a referendum.

Menominee Indians want to build a casino annex beside the Dairyland Greyhound parimutuel track.

With the tribe pledging to compensate Kenosha for municipal services, the council approved the casino 14-2 Monday.

Apesanahkwat, the tribal chairman,

declined to predict the outcome of a vote expected Thursday by Kenosha County's Board of Supervisors.

Gov. Tommy Thompson has said local governments must agree to a casino before the state will approve.

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Harvesting manomin . . .



Josh Besaw, of the MIHS Language & Culture class, tries his hand at winnowing wild rice as instructed by Dave Grignon, Historic Preservation director (background). Inset photo - a display created by the class, explaining the wild ricing process.

M Wilber/MNN

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Skeletal remains very old, says anthropologist

KESHENA — The 150-year-old remains of a Menominee child were inadvertently unearthed during a small scale construction project at the Menominee Tribal Offices on Wednesday, September 14.

The remains were that of a child, approximately 10 to 12 years old. The burial age was determined by ceramics found with the remains.

An analysis concluded it was probable that the child's health was compromised during the 1848 relocation of Menominee tribal members to the current reservation, which placed them at risk for illness.

Dr. Leslie Eisenberg, a forensic anthropologist from the Wisconsin Burial Sites office was called in to

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Variety of community activities planned

By Yvonne M. Kaquatosh
Menominee Nation News

(KESHENA, WI) A variety of community activities will be held in upcoming weeks on the reservation.

For instance, next Friday, October 1, the 3rd Annual Menominee Indian High School Homecoming will be held. "We have a full slate of activities planned for athletes and non-athletes alike," said Booster Club member Michelle Corn. "It's a great way for young and old alike to get together and show their support for our students."

To kick off the festivities, a parade will begin at 1 p.m. at Black Smith Road (downtown Keshena) and conclude at the High School. The Football game will start at 4 p.m. with

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ACTIVITIES:

Fun for the whole family

the Eagles hosting Wittenberg. The crowning of the Homecoming King and Queen will be held at a dance that will begin at 7 p.m.

"It means a lot to all of our students to have the community turn out for these events," said High School Dean of Students and Athletic Director Chuck Raasch. "It's a good tradition that creates a positive focus for all of us."

The Booster Club is sponsoring the event. However, volunteers are needed to assist with the various activities, as well as staffing the food booth at the Homecoming game. "In order to make these activities a success," said Corn, "we need the community's help."

On October 2nd, 'Menominee Pride Day' will be held from 10 a.m.- 2 p.m. at the Keshena Primary School.

A traditional Menominee Elder's Powwow will take place on Saturday, October 9, 1999 at the Menominee Tribal School gym in Neopit. Weather permitting, the event will be held outside. Grand Entry is at 1 p.m. and will be followed by a feast at 6 p.m. The deadline to schedule a ride with the Transportation Dept. is Wed. Oct. 6, call 799-3222 to make reservations. General public will be charged usual fare. There is no charge for elders.

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CASINO:

Then the tribe would need approval from the US Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The proposal would also be subject to review by the National Indian Gaming Commission. Alderman Ron Frederick said 70 percent of the \$7.5 million to \$20.5 million annual payment the city has been promised would help Kenosha fill a void left by the loss of industries and other sources of revenue.

Aldermen Chuck Bradley voted against the plan, saying: "I see our city falling into a niche of looking for a quick way to solve economic problems." He noted 43 percent of the voters in the referendum were against the idea "and I think those voices have to be heard too."

Among the people in the audience who objected to the casino was Duane Anderson who said the council should not vote until it has a final draft of the financial agreement with the Menominee.

The council will vote on the agreement October 4.

ELECTIONS:

provided for in MTE Charter, Article XII Menominee Constitution and Bylaws.

Tribal members have to meet the following qualifications to be a candidate for the Special Election:

1. Tribal member, age 25 years or more as of November 10, 1999.
2. Not a supervisor in MTE, not a consultant, contractor, or legal representative of MTE.
3. No felony record within the past 10 years, unless pardoned by appropriate authorities.
4. Submit a nominating petition signed by 75 adult tribal members.

Eligible tribal members can register and pick up petitions at the Tribal Chairperson's office at the Tribal Office Building. Candidates who previously filed nomination papers for four Board of Directors' seats must refile.

Signed petitions must be submitted to the Chairperson's office by 4:30 p.m. Monday, October 11, 1999. Registration began on Monday, September 20, 1999.

The Annual Business meeting of the MTE Board of Directors will go on as planned on Saturday, September 25, 1999. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the Neopit Intermediate School. Lunch will be provided.

This is the first time in tribal election history that the MTE Board of Directors election, will be combined with the Menominee Tribal Legislature, and Menominee Chief of Police elections.

In accordance with Ordinance 79-20, the Primary election will be held on Wednesday, November 10 at the Neopit Firestation, and Thursday November 11 at the Tribal Office Headquarters. Polling places will open at 10:00 am. and close at 8:00 p.m.

The Final election will be held on Wednesday, January 12, 2000 at the Neopit Firestation, and Thursday, January 13 at the Tribal Office Headquarters.

O'KIMOSH:

My sister Deb asked me to keep this quiet during the week prior to the awarding ceremony, as it was to be a surprise for her daughter, Darcie O'Kimosh, a sophomore at Shawano Community High School.

Darcie's dad Richard O'Kimosh Sr. thought it would take about 10 seconds for her to shed tears when she learned what was going on. I figured it wouldn't even take that long.

Shawano Community High School Principal Chris Ligocki, who went to get her out of class, told her a little fib about what she was needed for. He said she was to participate in a student advisory meeting.

Upon entering the district boardroom, her eyes went wide with surprise. The realization of what this gathering was really for hit her. The tears started to flow, and not just from Darcie. Tears of joy came from most of those assembled - proud parents, family members, teachers, coaches, and other mentors. The joy was as much for Darcie's accomplishments as for the Kruegers' generosity.

The scholarship is all-expenses paid to any school of higher education she chooses. As long as she maintains good academic standing through high school and beyond, her tuition, books, fees, room and board will be covered by the Krueger scholarship.

Darcie and her mom thanked everyone, especially the Kruegers for their extraordinary gift. Deb said in addition to doing well in school and excelling as a three-sport athlete, Darcie is also a good role model for her younger sisters.

"This is not so much a gift as it is an opportunity," said Lloyd Krueger. He and his wife Norma, of Canyon Lake, Texas, established the fund after searching the area three years ago for a good place to set it up. They stopped in Shawano and were pleased with the district staff in defining the parameters for the scholarship.

Originally from the central Wisconsin area, the Kruegers grew up with many dear Native American friends and were always intrigued by native culture and spirituality. Norma told a story of a time many years ago when Lloyd was a football player and was knocked flat by a large Indian fellow. This man reached down and picked him up and said " 'Sorry about that.' " That really made an impression on Lloyd," Norma said.

The Kruegers wanted a different sort of scholarship, one that wasn't necessarily for the top GPA honor students, but one for students with traditionally less fortunate backgrounds.

Norma said they wanted to give an opportunity for higher education to a student with a portion of Indian blood, scholastically sound, community minded, and who was the type to lead in the future.

"We both feel education is so important," she said. "We feel fortunate to be able to do this."

Of the nine scholarship applicants, Norma said they're all shining stars, but Darcie shines a little brighter. Darcie is leaning toward a career in health care, her mom said.

Bill Prijic, principal at Lincoln School in Shawano, worked with the Kruegers in setting up the parameters for the scholarship. He said they purposely designed it to go to a student early in their high school career to provide an incentive to do well as they progress. This is the second year the award was given. Last year it went to Scott Kosnicki, now a junior at SCHS.

The award was also made possible by Deb Sazama, SCHS varsity volleyball coach, and Mark Caskey, health & wellness director for the Menominee Tribal Clinic, through their letters of recommendation to the scholarship selection committee on Darcie's behalf.

REMAINS:

make sure the remains were not part of a possible criminal investigation. Tribal police and the FBI secured the area until more could be learned about the remains. Upon determining it was not a criminal matter, the remains were reburied under the supervision of the Menominee Historic Preservation Department.

"Our immediate concern is returning that individual to their original resting place in an expeditious and dignified manner," said Menominee Tribal Chairman Apesanahkwat. The reburial was completed on Thursday, September 16.

In July, the tribe passed a Cultural Resource Management Plan, which established a consistent policy for the manner in which the tribe deals with such an occurrence. "We have our mechanisms in place, and are following them to the letter," said Apesanahkwat. "Our Historic Preservation Department has developed a preservation plan for this burial, under the direction of Menominee Elders, using traditional Menominee values."

Under the Cultural Resource Management Plan, the remains will be returned as close as possible to their original location. A buffer will then be established around the burial to prevent any further disturbance. The buffer will be approximately 100 feet in all directions. Current Wisconsin State Law requires only a five foot buffer zone. No further construction will occur within that buffer, now or in the future.

"First and foremost we have a responsibility to protect those ancestors who passed on before us, and if that prevents a parking lot, or other construction project, then so be it," said Apesanahkwat.

